

Weather Forecast

Sunny, warmer; high near 60 today; near 45 tonight. Tomorrow cloudy, mild.

Temperatures today—Highest, 48, at 1:30 p.m.; lowest, 31, at 6:10 a.m. Yesterday—Highest, 46, at 5:20 p.m.; lowest, 34, at 3:40 a.m.

Late New York Markets, Page A-17.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

Guide for Readers

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WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1945—THIRTY-FOUR PAGES. ★★

Reds Close on Berlin From South, Push Within 45 Miles of Dresden; Corregidor Sea Attack Reported

Russians Across Neisse River, Germans Say

(Map on Page A-4.)

By the Associated Press.  
LONDON, Feb. 15.—A German military spokesman today said Russian tank and cavalry forces, smashing ahead 17 miles in 24 hours, had crossed the Neisse River in an area only 65 miles from Berlin in the drive on the German capital from the south-east.

Other spearheads, Moscow dispatches said, had raced 22 miles in the offensive west of Breslau and reached Goerlitz on the Neisse only 53 miles east of Dresden, and were now battling for bridgeheads in Southern Germany.

A Tass broadcast from Moscow later said the Russians had reached a point only 45 miles from Dresden. Marshal Ivan Konev's steadily reinforced blows fell with a speed and success which suggested that German resistance had been almost paralyzed.

Military Highways Reached

The Berlin military spokesman said Marshal Konev's free-wheeling columns had reached the autobahns, or military highways, both north-west and southwest of Forst, 65 miles from Berlin.

Forst is on the west side of the Neisse, 12 miles east of Cottbus and 40 miles north of Goerlitz.

The town is 17 miles west of Sommerfeld, which the Germans said the Russians reached yesterday.

The Germans said Marshal Konev in this area had established a "close connection" with Marshal Gregory Zhukov's forces fighting east of Berlin, where they have established bridgeheads over the Oder south of Fuerstenberg. Fuerstenberg is 27 miles north of Forst.

To the south Marshal Konev apparently had bypassed the important railway junction and stronghold of Koblitz in his 22-mile jump from Bunzlau to Goerlitz on the Neisse. The Neisse is the last natural barrier before Dresden.

Last Big War Barrier

Frankfurt first announced the Konev thrust to the Neisse. Its correspondent said whole groups of German towns had been captured, by-passed or sealed off in a spectacular new advance.

The speed of the drive indicated Nazi resistance in that sector was crumbling. The Russians were reported battling for a bridgehead across the Neisse in their drive toward Dresden, the city of 680,000 which Hitler once had planned to make the artistic capital of the Reich.

Marshal Konev's northern wing spreading just below the Oder and the Konev troops who yesterday captured Freystadt and reportedly reached Sorau and Sommerfeld, to the south, southeast and west of Grunberg.

It was recognized that the lake district southeast of Berlin, including the chain of water barriers linked by the many channels of the meandering Spree River, was a natural defense line, and was probably the Germans would be compelled to shift heavy new forces to meet this threat.

If they did so they would be in danger of weakening their defenses along the Oder directly east of Berlin where Marshal Zhukov was engaged in large-scale maneuvering behind a smoke screen and a terrific bombardment of the fortresses of Frankfurt and Kuerstin.

Bridgeheads Across Oder

By German account, the Russians still had bridgeheads across the Oder in this area. The German high command, named two at these at Wiesensau and Ziltendorf between Frankfurt and Kuerstenberg. Ziltendorf is 5 miles north of Kuerstenberg and 45 miles from Berlin.

Soviet correspondents told of Russian troops moving into German towns "abounding" with German soldiers as well as civilians who had been unable to get out of the way of the speedy advance toward Dresden.

Scenes of Panic were Described in Many Such Towns

The Germans were reported badly

(See RUSSIA, Page A-4.)

Comdr. Stassen Here, Unavailable to Press

By the Associated Press.

Comdr. Harold E. Stassen, named by President Roosevelt to the American delegation to the San Francisco world security conference, is in Washington.

Senator Magnuson, Democrat, of Washington told reporters Comdr. Stassen arrived today. The former Republican Governor of Minnesota has been serving on the staff of Admiral William F. Halsey.

Because of naval regulations, Comdr. Stassen was unavailable to

Newsmen for comment on his designation as a security conference delegate.

Yank Bombers Renew Attack On Dresden

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—American heavy bombers carrying out one of the greatest air offensives of the war, blasted Dresden again today and bombed the clogged railroads of Cottbus, only 12 miles from a sector in which Russian spearheads were reported operating.

Still another force of American heavy bombers again attacked the synthetic oil plant outside Madgeburg, 75 miles southwest of Berlin. While this great armada of more than 1,100 Flying Fortresses and Liberators with 450 fighter escorts was making these attacks, the German radio sounded new alarms. Fresh formations of Allied bombers were reported flying in over Holland and also from the south over Austria.

The attacks brought to about 11,000 thus far the number of planes which have linked the eastern and western battle fronts under an unprecedented blanket of explosives and incendiaries in the last 48 hours.

Tactical Aircraft Busy

Front-line reports said tactical aircraft, also, were having another great field day against Nazi road movements.

Cottbus is a big rail and highway junction squarely in front of Marshal Ivan S. Konev's right flank. It is a fat target, jammed now with Nazi troops and supplies.

Today's powerful assaults came after overnight blows by 1,300 RAF planes which struck at the east front rail center of Chemnitz, as

(See AERIAL, Page A-3.)

Jap Industrial City Of Nagoya Attacked By Super Fortresses

New B-29 Unit Based On Tinian Island in Marianas Revealed

The War Department announced today that Super Fortresses had attacked Japan's home island of Honshu today and at the same time revealed the establishment of a new unit of the giant bombers on Tinian Island in the Marianas.

An Associated Press dispatch from headquarters of the 21st Bomber Command at Guam said the B-29s had struck the important industrial city of Nagoya. The Tokyo radio confirmed this and added that the Mei prefecture across Aomori Bay from Nagoya also suffered "some damage" from explosive and incendiary bombs. The Japanese said 80 Super Fortresses carried out the raid.

Damage Called Serious

Secretary of War Stimson, who last week told reporters that although air attacks had been doing damage to enemy industry, "Japan's war production has not yet been fundamentally weakened," said today that damage inflicted on the Ota aircraft factory last week was "serious."

In announcing the new Tinian base, Gen. H. H. Arnold, commander of the 20th Air Force, said it "will increase the scope of bombing operations against Japan."

He added that with headquarters of the 21st Command established on Guam and the original bases on Saipan in full operation, "all three major islands of the Marianas group now become an impressive center of B-29 operations in the Pacific."

Gen. Davies in Command

The planes on Tinian compose a new unit, the 131st Wing of the 21st Bomber Command. The wing is commanded by Brig. Gen. John H. Davies, Piedmont, Calif.

The 20th Air Force's other command, the 20th Bomber Command, operates from bases in Southeast Asia.

Earlier today the Tokyo radio reported that lone Super Fortresses bombed the Tokyo-Yokohama metropolitan area and the Nagoya district last night and early today and returned later in reconnaissance flights.

Today's strike was the fourth by B-29s since Saturday. The aircraft factory at Ota, 40 miles northwest of Tokyo, was hit Saturday, the Rangson area Sunday and Iwo Jima Monday.

U. S. Outposts in Italy Driven Back by Nazis

By the Associated Press.

ROME, Feb. 15.—German infiltration tactics drove back American outposts on the Tyrrhenian coastal sector of the Italian front and a Nazi raid in the Serchio Valley forced another slight withdrawal, but the ground later was regained, Allied headquarters announced today.

Describing the Tyrrhenian action, the official report said:

"Between Stretella and Seravezza, our outposts moved back a short distance after enemy forces had intruded our lines and also launched a raid about 500 yards east of Stretella."

Raiding Nazis forced American troops back a few hundred yards east of Lama di Stabia, but the positions were regained later, the communiqué said.

41 U. S. Vessels Trying to Enter Bay, Japs Say

By the Associated Press.

An American armada apparently is preparing to dash into Manila Bay between the Japanese guns on Corregidor and Bataan for a sea-borne assault on the Philippines capital, the Tokyo radio reported today.

Unconfirmed Japanese news agency dispatches said 20 American minesweepers attempted to clear an entrance to Manila Bay Tuesday under cover of a heavy naval and air bombardment.

Domel said Corregidor's remaining big guns fought day-long duel with batteries of 11 American warships, sank one minesweeper and prevented the remainder from sweeping the narrow channel between Corregidor and Bataan. "Some 10 enemy transports, apparently carrying invasion forces," were reported waiting for mines to be cleared from the waterway.

Civilians Reported Murdered

Explosions and flames still erupted in southern Manila where doomed Japanese soldiers were reported murdering civilians. Atrocious reports said the Japanese had bayoneted and civilians whose hands had been tied.

NBS Correspondent George Foster said in a broadcast from Manila that for the last 11 days the Japanese have been killing countless men, women and children. They have shot them down in the streets as they fled before the flames," he reported. "They have speared, bayoneted and hacked them to death with samurai swords."

He said the Japanese have herded Filipinos into wooden buildings and burned them.

Dispatches said Americans are being forced to fight for each house, each street corner and each shattered remnant of a building. Gen. MacArthur said "We are gradually compressing the circle on the trap, and the Japanese are being driven into the trap."

Similarly, Yanks on Bataan are slowly encircling that rugged battleground. Tank-led infantrymen of the 11th Corps moved down the east coast to Abucayan, where an anchor of Gen. MacArthur's first defense line on Bataan in 1942, enclosing the upper third of the peninsula.

Simultaneously with Tokyo's prediction of an American dash into Manila Bay, Maj. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, one of Japan's leading military commentators, discounted the worth of Manila. Domel quoted him as saying it was of "no strategic value" and should not be defended to the last man.

Japs See More Heavy Fighting

Yamashita said in effect that American conquest of Manila would not mean a defeat for the Japanese because they didn't intend to defend it anyway. He also prepared his Oriental audience to expect heavy fighting soon in Northern Luzon where Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita is believed to have the bulk of his forces concentrated.

Troops of Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler's 37th Division, bearing the brunt of the house-by-house onslaught in Manila, yesterday reached the University of the Philippines campus, a half mile from the high commissioner's residence on the bay front.

The Japanese still held the General Hospital nearby, however, and the American position was untenable. The hospital has been converted into one of the enemy's strongest positions.

Associated Press Correspondent Fred Hampson said the enemy was confined to an area about 5,000 yards by 2,000 yards.

Corregidor Heavily Bombed

Corregidor took another heavy bombing as Liberators unloaded 107 tons on coastal batteries, already pounded virtually into uselessness. Bombers sweeping the east coast of Bataan sank an additional 24 supply barges.

Enemy positions in the Zamboanga foothills west of Clark Field were hit by fighters and divebombers in support of 40th Division ground troops who captured a considerable store of supplies after inflicting heavy casualties.

Across the central Luzon plain, patrols of the 6th, 25th and 32d Infantry Divisions found quantities of abandoned equipment, including four tanks, in the Southern Caraballo Mountains.

Locomotives and freight cars were destroyed in effective air sweeps over Pormosa. A reconnaissance plane shot down an enemy fighter off the French Indo-China coast.

U. S. Delegate Missing From UNRRA Parley

By the Associated Press.

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb. 15.—Abbot Low Moffatt, leader of the American delegation to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration conference here, had failed to arrive for the opening of the meeting today although he was due by plane a week ago.

Authorities here called to Washington last night asking if Mr. Moffatt, a State Department official, could be traced.

The Far Eastern Committee of UNRRA is opening a six-day conference on relief activities in the Orient.

Canadians Fight Through Flood Waters to Rhine

Drive Threatens To Outflank Ruhr Munitions Plants

BULLETIN.

PARIS (AP).—The Canadian 1st Army gathered momentum today after beating off six more frenzied counterattacks and there were signs the Germans were faltering under heavy artillery and aerial bombardment. Kessel, 5 miles west of Goch, was taken. The offensive has overrun 120 square miles, most of it in Germany.

(Map on Page A-6.)

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—Canadian troops today fought through flood waters to the west bank of the Rhine opposite Emmerich and swung slowly along the northern end of the Rhine Valley in a drive behind the Siegfried Line threatening to outflank the Ruhr munitions industries.

The 30-mile Kieve front was the only active one in the west. On its south flank, British Empire troops crushed a series of violent German counterattacks and pressed close to the key defense bastions of Goch and Calcar.

More and more Germans were drawn into the semi-aquatic battle which steadily was turning the German flank in the north.

Hundreds of Guns Firing

Barrages from hundreds on hundreds of Field Marshal Montgomery's big guns and huge fleets of Allied planes paralyzed every German attempt to regain ground and exacted terrible casualties. Nonetheless, the thrust was so real to the Ruhr and Rhineland, the very heart of the German war effort, that Field Marshal Walther von Model attempted every reserve he could scrape for his defending army group.

The Rhine was reached at Hursel. There the river is normally 370 feet wide but breaches in dykes in the desolate lowlands have made the Rhine even more imposing.

At low points north of Kieve and west of Emmerich, the Rhine was as wide as the English Channel before a gradual recession of floods on clean Calais and Dover and flood waters were 8 feet deep, leaving only islands of sunken villages. The Canadians used amphibious tanks to advance.

The Canadian 1st Army, already behind the Siegfried Line and up to the Rhine, was in a position to push south and confine or kill the enemy on either side of his West Wall fortifications.

Road Floods Receding

Three of Gen. Eisenhower's armies to the south watched with satisfaction a gradual recession of floods on the Roer River barring their path to the Cologne plain. Still farther south and near the center of the western front, the American 3d Army made quarter-mile advances to within 8 miles of Bitburg, where seven military highways meet.

Alsace was quiet

The British Empire troops crept forward in the wake of blows struck at Germany by 10,000 planes in 36 hours, much of their might loosed on the area between the Rhine and Gen. Eisenhower's seven armies. One group wrecked the Rhine bridge at the Ruhr city of Wesel, 18 miles ahead of British troops.

Gen. Henry Crerar's Canadian 1st Army appeared definitely headed south toward the Cologne plain. On the west edge of that plain, the British 2d and the American 9th and 1st Armies were checking back by Roer River floods, flowing from open dikes at the headwaters.

The Canadians, Britons, Scots and Welsh commanded by Gen. Crerar captured Hommersum, Heijen and Warbeyen. Opposite Emmerich and its plants producing iron, chemicals, leather goods, textiles and rail equipment, the Canadians were 13 1/2 miles inside Germany and 49 from the great Rhine city of Duesseldorf.

Three additional men from the District area have been reported killed in this war. See "On the Honor Roll," Page A-2.

Work Bill Inquiry Extended To Weigh Army Use of Labor

By J. A. O'LEARY.

The Senate Military Affairs Committee abandoned plans to end hearings today on the House-approved work-or-jail bill and began inquiring into the use of being made by the Army of its manpower, both military and civilian.

Chairman Thomas announced at noon that Lt. Gen. Thomas T. Handy, deputy chief of staff, who was questioned in closed session this morning, will give further testimony tomorrow or Monday.

Earlier it had been indicated the



U. S. Army Casualties On West Front Put at 61,962 for January

Ground Force Losses From D Day to Feb. 1 Given as 394,874

By the Associated Press.

Army ground forces suffered 394,874 casualties on the western front from D day last June to February 1, including 61,962 last month.

In reporting this today Secretary of War Stimson said 63,410 were killed, 273,997 wounded and 57,467 missing. The January report reflected an increase in casualties on the western front, with 8,848 reported killed, 41,325 wounded and 11,789 missing.

Mr. Stimson also reported that the Army's casualties in all theaters since the beginning of the war now are 693,242 on the basis of names compiled in Washington through February 7 and reflecting combat action in the early part of January.

Linked with the Navy's latest report of losses of 88,838, this puts total American combat losses at 782,180, an increase of 17,586 since last week's report.

The breakdown on Army losses in this week's report and corresponding figures for last week follow:

Killed, 135,510 and 130,266; wounded, 408,553 and 396,176; prisoners, 58,548 and 58,878; missing, 9,723 and 91,976.

Mr. Stimson reported that 202,813 of the wounded have returned to duty.

Similar figures for the Navy are: Killed, 33,538 and 33,192; wounded, 40,807 and 42,248; prisoners, 4,474 and 4,475; missing, 10,221 and 9,873.

The decline in the number listed as prisoners by the Army and Navy presumably represents a shifting to other classifications.

The losses on the western front in January were 12,826 smaller than in December, when the powerful German offensive in the Ardennes was under way. During January, the American forces began to pinch off the Ardennes salient and to launch offensives of their own.

WFA Acts to Step Up Butter Production

In a move designed to encourage more butter production, the War Food Administration today announced a revision of its dairy production payment program, effective April 1.

On that date the rates of payment on whole milk will be reduced 35 cents per 100 pounds for three months. Under the present price structure, it has been more profitable for dairymen to sell their whole milk for products other than butter.

Thus with payments on whole milk reduced, WFA officials hope that more producers will divert their production to butter. Since the first of the year butter production has shown a steady decline in contrast to the increase usually experienced during this period.

WFA tentatively plans a 10-cent increase in payments over the second quarter for July, August and September and a 25-cent increase for the last quarter, bringing the payments back to their present level of 60 to 90 cents depending on the region.

Roosevelt Expected in France; Relief Distribution Probe Seen

Marseille Visit Reported; Relaxation On Italian Armistice Terms Anticipated

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—Some relaxation of Italian armistice terms and a possible inquiry by President Roosevelt into arrangements for the relief of French civilians were indicated today by continental dispatches.

A dispatch from Paris shortly after noon today said it was learned that the investigation already was under way and that Justice Samuel I. Rosenman, Mr. Roosevelt's adviser, had been inquiring into the relief situation for the President.

The best available information in Paris was that Mr. Roosevelt had not yet reached France, although a Paris broadcast said the President, on his way back from the Crimean conference, was reported by the Marseille press "to have made a short stay" at Marseille, French Mediterranean port.

Mr. Roosevelt was expected to

visit Italy on his return trip and arrangements to receive him also have been made both by the French government and by Allied headquarters, according to a news story passed by Allied censorship from Paris last night.

This dispatch, by A. P. Bureau Chief Edward Kennedy, said "one of the war's greatest scandals may come out" in connection with French relief if the President visited France. He said high-ranking administration officials and Army officers had been summoned to be prepared to meet the President.

"Judging from this," it was added, "the President may intend to inquire into the problem of the relief of the French civilian population. It is reported that White House directives for more of this relief have not been fulfilled."

In Washington, OWI Director Elmer Davis said he assumed the reference was to the failure to ship as much civilian supplies into

(See ROOSEVELT, Page A-16.)

War Probers Demand Budget Officer Asks Early Agreement on Teacher Pay Raises

U. S.-Built Airports Ranging Up to \$1,300

Tunnell Report Criticizes Apparent Lack of Policy On Postwar Economic Aims

By the Associated Press.

The Senate War Investigating Committee today called for early determination of United States rights in airports and other installations it has constructed throughout the world.

In a report sharply critical of what it termed "the apparent lack of a definite national policy on post-war security and economic aims," a subcommittee headed by Senator Tunnell, Democrat, of Delaware, asserted:

"Neither the United States nor any of our American allies have obtained any franchises to operate in North Africa."

On the other hand, the British Overseas Airways Corp. is running regularly scheduled commercial flights, accepting nonpriority passengers when space permits. On a much smaller scale, the French and Belgians are operating in North Africa."

Sensors Tunnell and Burton, Republican, of Ohio, who recently made a tour extending from Bermuda to Casablanca, gave the Senate findings that:

1. Records as to the costs of installations are "poorly kept" in many instances, indicating the need for a complete appraisal by the armed forces.

2. Documents containing terms of United States rights "should be assembled, indexed and preserved."

3. Titles and rights in installation not now clear "should be clarified immediately."

4. Where rights are possessory only, "possession should not be relinquished without due regard for our national interests."

5. Full information as to surplusage, both movable and immovable, and estimates as to costs of dismantling, removal and disposition "should be collected."

6. Future negotiations for rights in real estate for military and other wartime installations "should be conducted in consultation with the State Department."

"Inadequate Measures"

Senator Tunnell told the Senate that in some instances he and Senator Burton found that installations, such as airports, camps for road maintenance and other camps, had been abandoned by the Army "and that inadequate measures were being taken for the maintenance of records on cost, fair rental or sale value."

No adequate investigation, he said, "was being made as to the propriety of charging up against those of our Allies receiving benefits from installations erected at our expense the fair value of such benefits."

Administration Wins First Test On George Bill

House Votes, 202-192, In Favor of Rule to Consider Measure

Administration forces in the House today won the first test on the George bill, prerequisite for the confirmation of former Vice President Wallace to be Secretary of Commerce. By a vote of 202 to 192 the House adopted a rule providing for consideration of the George measure, which would separate Federal loan agencies from the Commerce Department.

Immediately after the adoption of the rule, which permits four hours' debate, the George bill was laid before the House. Any amendment held to be germane can be voted upon.

Opponents of Mr. Wallace will seek at the conclusion of the debate, to kill the bill by a motion to recommit. Their effort is aimed at preventing passage of the measure in the hope that the Senate then would not confirm Mr. Wallace as Secretary of Commerce.

Practically all of the Republicans voted against the rule. They were joined by a number of Democrats from the South who are strongly opposed to Wallace.

Democratic leaders were confident of passage of the bill by Senator George, Democrat, of Georgia, after breaking up a log jam in the hostile Rules Committee. The committee, after holding the George bill 10 days, finally cleared it yesterday for consideration on the floor.

Wallace supporters who are for the George bill take the attitude that unless it is passed the Senate will not confirm their man for the cabinet at all.

6-to-4 Vote for Action. Though many of its members were openly hostile to Mr. Wallace, the Rules Committee refused by a 6-to-4 vote to bottle up the George bill.

Some critics of Mr. Wallace had hoped to shelve this bill until after the Senate votes on the nomination. However, at least two Democrats standing with the Republicans in opposition to Mr. Wallace decided to go along with the Democratic leadership and let the legislation go to the House floor.

Speaker Rayburn told newspapermen he expected the George bill to pass and that the Senate had delayed the Wallace confirmation vote to March 1, awaiting House action.

In what Chairman Sabath termed "a lot of horse play and politics," the rules group held three sessions yesterday on the politics-studded controversy.

Wolcott Seeks Broader Bill

Seeking to broaden the restrictive scope of the measure, Representative Wolcott, Republican, of Michigan, Republican leader of the Banking Committee, told the committee, "Mr. Wallace is the symbol of the Leftist movement," and again: "Unless the Export-Import Bank is reorganized, the President could make Sidney Hillman head of the bank if he wanted to."

Defending Mr. Roosevelt's record of handling agencies in wartime, Chairman Sabath asserted: "By the eternal gods the President has done well!"

The committee twice called in Lewis Deschler, the House parliamentarian, and sent downtown for Lawrence, foreign economics administrator, to inquire how he came into control of